

**TIVERTON HARBOR COMMISSION**  
343 HIGHLAND ROAD  
TIVERTON RHODE ISLAND 02878

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2009**

*Meeting was called to order at 1930 hours by Chairman John McEwing. Members present were David Stewart, Vice-Chairman, Bob Dixon, Roger Winiarski, Harris Gruber, Secretary, Frank diMauro, and Bruce Cox. Also present were Harbormaster Dave Vannier, Assistant Harbormaster George "Chip" Reuther and resident Charlie Smith.*

*Harbormaster Dave Vannier introduced his new (and now trained) Assistant Harbormaster Chip Reuther.*

*Minutes of June 29 and August 3 were accepted for the record.*

*A correction by the Harbormaster to his August report, regarding a report from the Fogland Oversight Committee, presented at the August 4<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting was offered.*

**CORRESPONDENCE -**

*Regarding a letter from Betty Jerome regarding boat traffic and wildlife in Nannaquaket Pond, Harbormaster Dave Vannier phoned Ms. Jerome to assure her that the Harbor Patrol would be monitoring these matters closely as they make their usual rounds of the area.*

**COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS -**

*In the matter of resident Mark Rego's property on Riverside Drive, the alleged back-filling at the Sakonnet River shoreline was reported to the Town Administrator. The Building Inspector had already presented a "Cease and Desist" order to the property owner; additionally, the RI Coastal Resources Management Council has been informed; they will inspect the property and the situation.*

**SAKONNET RIVER BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION -**

*Harbormaster Dave Vannier reports that two "NO WAKE" buoys have been installed adjacent to the project area; the first barge arrived; copies of Cashman Engineering's construction plan were distributed to members by resident Charlie Smith; a meeting with DOT officials was suggested; Cashman official Andrew phone number*

401-465-3164; inquired about website for the project (not known). Roger Winiarski suggested that a listing of the property and email addresses of interested residents be compiled to facilitate more information distribution and communication with project authorities. Resident Charlie Smith reported that new water and gas mains were being installed in Evans Avenue, as well as a new 24" water drainage pipe.

## OLD BUSINESS -

### *Subcommittee Reports –*

Harbormaster Job Description/Personnel Board – Roger Winiarski, Bob Dixon, Dave Vannier – Dave Vannier is to send a letter to the Personnel Board, inviting them to join this group to flesh out the Harbormaster job description.

Harbor Commission Volunteers Group and Future Projects – Frank diMauro, David Stewart, Harris Gruber – presented the previous list of 43 community waterfront/shoreline project suggestions in organized list form under headings Harbormaster/Public Relations/Legal/Librarian-Archives/Environmental.

Discussion followed about recruiting residents to assist HC in these matters. It was suggested that our intent be outlined to the Town Administrator and the Town Council and then to seek publicity of these plans with an article in the Sakonnet Times and the Fall River newspaper, once a basic plan has been formulated. Bruce Cox suggested that a modest number of small tasks be proposed at the outset, especially those for which results might be realized in a short time frame (which would hopefully spark interest for additional resident participation). John McEwing suggested we select 4-5 tasks for the coming year. Dave Vannier responded that the matter of the dinghy dock, especially, should be addressed promptly, so as to be ready well in advance of the 2010 boating season.

## NEW BUSINESS -

1 – Proposal from Lisa and Chris McGreavy for building a replacement dock at property at 430 Nannaquaket Road:

The proposal, from the CRMC Agenda of July 28, is for a replacement floats and a new pier, for which previous authorization had been applied for ?and granted? By CRMC some years ago, but not built to this date. The existing docks were built by Mrs. McGreavey's parents on the property in 1969; the original engineer is now deceased. CRMC has already assented to their request. After presentation and review of the McGreaveys' proposal, questions and suggestions were forthcoming:

- Bruce Cox suggested that they may wish to consider "mono-pile" supports for the pier, such as used in a project on the west shore of Bristol Harbor. The material ?is inert? Suggested to check with Al Pearson who manufactures "monopiles"; they require only one pile for each two of conventional pier construction. Bob Dixon cautioned about changing the

*plan, as the McGreaveys have already received approval, as presented.*

*Discussion: agreed that the overall footprint of the proposal was the determining factor, but this should be checked before changing anything. CRMC regulations require that floats **not** rest on bottom grass at any tide level and that pier construction **not** extend beyond the MLW mark. Also, under a proposed new fee structure, CRMC may charge \$500 to review construction/rebuild proposals before them*

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- *Discussion as to whether Nannaquaket Pond is CRMC “Type 1” or “Type 2” waters. Bob Dixon reported that, after examining the CRMC website, under “new regulations” and “conservation zone”, Nannaquaket Pond is designated “Type 2”.*

*The Harbor Commission voted unanimously to approve the project.*

*2 – Effective dates of Harbormaster appointment -Changes in the Town charter will be proposed to match the current Harbor Management Plan, which specifies a yearly term ending on June 30. Bruce Cox will write a letter to the Town Council, with a copy to Town attorney Andy Teitz.*

*3 – Harris Gruber to write a “Letter of Introduction” to Town Agencies.*

*4 – David Stewart to write a letter to Chairman John McEwing and the Town Administrator which points out the need for frequent public meetings regarding the Sakonnet River Bridge construction.*

*5 – Harris Gruber to write a letter to appropriate agencies, regarding HC recent vote opposing the Weaver's Cove LNG proposals to transport LNG into Narragansett Bay.*

*6 – Frank diMauro is to write a letter to the Town Administrator, regarding the Harbor Commission's enthusiasm and approval of re-commissioning the Town Landing dinghy dock.*

*7 – Letter (?to the Town Council and Town Administrator?) regarding the requested change in mooring fees.*

*8 – It was revealed that RI Team Racing Associates (Alexa Shuler and Joel ?Hanneman?) have requested of the Town Council permission to run a regatta on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at Fogland, either north or south of Fogland Point, depending on the weather at the time (incidentally, forecast to be treacherous on the subject weekend), and permission was granted. No request for such permission was made to the Harbor Commission; besides being a breach of protocol, serious considerations of safety during the event were not addressed, including safety/chase boats and insurance.*

*Chairman John McEwing to write letters to the President of the Town Council and the Town Administrator, requesting to know how this was allowed to happen.*

*9 – Remarked and Noted: The large Manchester property, on the Quaket River and at the intersection of Main Road and Nannaquaket Road, for several years under consideration for re-development, is once again on the market.....for \$2,700,000. It will be within the purview of the Harbor Commission to review any new development plans that arise.*

#### *HARBORMASTER'S REPORT -*

*1 – Harbormaster Dave Vannier reported to the meeting that, as of this date, there are 366 legal moorings registered and paid for. Last year, the total was 244. The Harbor Management Plan calls for 345.*

*2 – Tiverton Yacht Club members who had slips at the Yacht Club are being offered the use of moorings by numerous “riparian rights” mooring holders. His opinion is that this is acceptable, under the circumstances, if registered.*

*3 – The Harbormaster wishes to thank Mr. Phillips for notification regarding the sunken boat at the south end of Nannaquaket Pond.*

*4 – The balance of the Harbormaster's Monthly Report can be found on-line at the Town website.*

*Respectfully submitted -*

*Harris Gruber, Secretary*